

## All-American Magazine

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PHOTOGRAPHS BY MURILLO STUDIO

## Miss Dora Rodrigues Turns Curiosity Into Cash by Donning Knickerbockers and Thus Pays All Expens- es on a Five-Year Tour of the World.

Ever since the day that man began putting his purse in his trousers pocket and forgetting it there when he put on his other suit, cartoonists have depicted his wife as gaining her spending money by sowing through his pockets.

Miss Dora Rodrigues of Amsterdam, Holland, has improved on the cartoonist idea. She uses trousers, not to gain a small bit of change. She makes her livelihood with them. She wears them.

For more than two years Miss Rodrigues has been in America, touring Canada, the United States and Mexico. Two years before that she visited South Africa, Asia and every country of Europe. Her stay in America will terminate with the San Francisco fair when she will return to Amsterdam to teach geography in a girl's college there.

Miss Rodrigues is 32 years old. When not quite eighteen she took to travel after graduating from a girl's finishing school in Edinburgh, Scotland. Then followed a journey of almost five years of adventure in strange lands, with experiences far different from those of the average tourist.

She has dared the dangers of Grant's Pass in Oregon. She once jumped from a railroad trestle in Virginia to a river far below to escape death from a freight train. During the Ohio flood she was caught by the water at Tiffin. In Mexico twice she came in contact with the Mexicans. She has been arrested by the police time and again as a suspicious character. She was held eight days in a prison in Smyrna under suspicion she was a spy.

When she first came to America she carried a big revolver in a holster. She did not know anything about the laws of America and thought she would carry the revolver as she walked. In the capital city of America she entered a newspaper office and called on the city editor.

"Little girl," said the editor, "I don't know who you are, where you came from where you are going, but I would like to know how you got in here carrying that weapon."

She explained she had never been harmed when she carried it. Later she went on to see the city. In front of the Capitol Building she was

arrested and taken to police court as a suspicious character. She was fined \$135 but the fine was stayed upon promise she would not carry the weapon in the city again.

"Why do you wear trousers?" Miss Rodrigues was asked by a reporter for this paper. "Do you find they are easy to get around in?"

"I'm not a disciple of Dr. Mary Walker," said the woman. "They are a little easier to get around in than skirts, I admit. I don't wear them for that reason, however. These trousers, or rather knickerbockers, are my capital stock. They are my most valuable asset. They keep me in food and pay my expenses on my tour of the world."

**CURIOUS CROWDS  
AN AID TO GIRL.**  
Miss Rodrigues wears the knickerbockers to attract attention. When she walks through the streets of a city the people stop and look at her. In a wallet she carries post card pictures of herself. When the crowd comes near she sells them pictures of herself.

"Without the knickers I could not command attention," she says. "I didn't put them on because I wanted to do so. I put them on because I had to if I was to continue my tour of the world. I had to look curious in order to get strangers to pay any attention to me. Since coming to America in 1911 I have seen none but strangers."

While in Minneapolis Miss Rodrigues was stopped on the street by a smartly dressed woman one day last winter. The woman was passing by in an electric car. She had heard of the girl being in the city and when she saw her on the street evidently thought she would give her a piece of her mind.

"I think it is awful for you to march around here in men's clothes," said the woman as she stepped from her electric. "You could walk as well in skirts. Your present garb is indecent."

Miss Rodrigues looked at the woman who was wearing a slit skirt. "My knickerbockers are not so indecent as your slit," said she. "I dress modestly. I do not masquerade as a man. I am not doing this entirely because of love of adventure. I am fitting myself to be a geography teacher and this is the only way I have of paying for my post-graduate course."

When Miss Rodrigues first started on her world tour she wore Dutch wooden shoes to attract attention. Upon coming to America she discarded them because they did not attract sufficient attention. She soon found she was unable to go on because of lack of funds. In the English-speaking colonies of the old world and in the civilized countries of Europe she had tried wearing a boy's suit with success, so she decided to try it in America. She won instant success. Americans would go anywhere to see a woman in trouserettes.

She found that in seeking newspaper publicity she was able to gain attention from editors and advertising men without fail. In selling her own picture Miss Rodrigues found she would be first surrounded by a crowd of jeering laughing men. But when she would ask them if they would buy a picture of her she would be met with prompt response. "Name your own price," was the usual reply.

Miss Rodrigues is high in her praise of American men generally. She said that aside from the crowds of toughs she met in all cities men usually treated her with courtesy. In the country she always carries a revolver for protection but never has had to use it. She knows how to shoot and is also a good swimmer. Her ability to swim came in good stead twice in her journeyings.

The first time was near Lynchburg, Va. She was walking to Lynchburg from Roanoke and to facilitate her speed in traveling she was walking along the railroad track. Coming to a long trestle over a river she decided to walk along the trestle rather than go another way because night was coming on and she wished to get to Lynchburg.

When in the middle of the trestle she saw a freight train coming around a bend. There was no chance to get off the trestle by running to the end. So she jumped headlong into the river. She swam down the river as the

**SWIMS DOWN RIVER  
AND REACHES SHORE.**  
She swam down the river as the



**DORA RODRIGUES, who is wearing knickerbockers as she tours the country.**

current was so swift she could not make the shore. She floated with the stream until she reached a point where the stream broadened out and the current was not so swift. There she made her way to the shore.

The second time she used her ability to swim was at Tiffin, Ohio. She was there during the Ohio flood. She awoke one morning to find Tiffin an island. In attempting to escape over a bridge it fell beneath her and she was forced to swim again. She reached ground and walked to Toledo.

The woman globe trotter's garb

consists of a bright red jacket, a bright red sweater, a pair of knickerbockers, leather leggings, leather shoes, leather gloves, a white cap and her revolver. The revolver is discarded as soon as she finds a hotel in which she can stay in the city.

Miss Rodrigues also uses the theaters of the city where she appears. She goes to picture show houses chiefly, where she is introduced and where she usually makes a talk about her experiences.

"I believe I can learn more about a city by walking through it and living as a working girl," she says. "I walk a great deal while on my way from place to place. I avoid being away from my hotel at night. I prefer to get around in daytime when I can see and avoid dangers."

"My object in America is not to make money. I am here only for the purpose of learning. I wish to make myself perfect in geography. Americans are hard to convince of the sincerity of my purpose. They cannot understand why I should travel around in trousers to learn geography. In Europe we differ much from Americans. Men in learning trades in Europe do not stay in one place and learn what they want to know there. They must travel to other cities and learn all the other cities know about. You have the same journey-men in America without knowing what it means. In Europe a journeyman is one who travels to learn a trade. I am a journeyman geographer. I am getting geography firmly fixed in my mind by actually seeing the places. I collect souvenirs on my trips."

Miss Rodrigues takes a small trunk with her on her trips from place to place. When she rides on the train she simply checks her trunk. Otherwise she sends it ahead by express.

The Dutch girl is not a walking fiend. She says she has traveled 30,000 miles on foot in five years, yet she does not believe in walking

for the sake of simply walking. She believes there are other ways of gaining health, so has not set out on her long tour simply for the sake of gaining health.

"I believe that if we walked more we would be more healthy," she says. "We have become accustomed to remaining in one place so long that we do not understand the value of walking. I am not a champion walker. I do not know how far I could walk in a day if I had to do it. When I walk I walk slowly and rest when I get tired. Sometimes I rest by the roadside. Often I eat at farm houses in the country. I don't care particularly where I am going. All I care for is to get somewhere."

### USES GOLD BECAUSE OF SMALL BULK.

"When I get there does not matter. I believe, I could make considerable money if I wished to do so. However, I do not care to make big money. If I did have a lot of money with me it would mean danger from robbery. I just make enough to keep going. That is all."

When she spoke of money Miss Rodrigues opened her purse and took out a \$10 gold piece.

"I never go broke," she said. "When I do get money I turn it in to gold and carry it that way, because it is easier to carry. It takes up little room. When I accumulate considerable money I get on a train and go a long way off. There is no need of staying in one place after I get the money. I am here to travel and when I can afford to ride I do so."

Miss Rodrigues started on her world trip in 1909. She walked from her home in Holland with her sister, going south through Italy and eventually visiting every large city of Europe. On her European trip she wore Dutch clothing. When she reached Turkey she met trouble. The Young Turk movement was on at that time. The Turkish authorities thought she was a spy.

She and her sister were seized at Smyrna and thrown in prison. After ten days she was allowed to communicate with the Dutch Consul. He obtained their release. Her sister went back to Holland, but Miss Rodrigues decided to see America.

Prior to her trip to Turkey, Miss Rodrigues had visited Egypt and South Africa. Her father, Herman Rodrigues, is a diamond merchant of Amsterdam. He went with her on her trip to South Africa, where she visited the diamond mines.

Miss Rodrigues arrived in America in 1911. After landing at the New York pier she walked through Pennsylvania. Then she turned south into Virginia and west across the Rockies to the Pacific Coast. After that she decided on a systematic visit of every State in the Union. She is almost through with the journey now. She expects to finish before the fair at San Francisco. After a visit to the fair she will return to Holland.

### Sells Ore to Owner.

The following incident happened to a "practical" miner, who has made his mine and stake, and is still at the game. He had a group of claims about a mile from a prospect that was producing ore and his persistence was finally rewarded by finding colors on the surface, after which he secured capital which enabled him to sink and cross-cut to the main shoot, from which he shipped a car of \$100 ore, until a mill was finally erected, which is still running, says a writer for The Engineering and Mining Journal. One of the ore haulers one evening, after leaving the corral, entered the restaurant, and I saw him hand a friend, "Slim," a specimen, about three inches square and one-half to one inch thick, that had half of one flat side streaked with gold, the metal having been apparently deposited in a crevice and exposed when the rock was broken. With it he showed the broken extension which was considerably larger, the ends of the two fitting perfectly. He wanted \$20 for the larger one, which he retained. About a week later he sold this for \$15 to a Denver mining man, who placed it in his private collection at home. He gave me permission to examine it the following day, and I soon saw the joke. The rock was especially fitted for the work, and had been skillfully painted with banana oil and picture-frame gilt. The mine owner producing the ore naively was tipped off that some nice specimens were being found, and when he saw the one Slim had, he at once bought it for \$5, and also several of the other ones in circulation, which now repose in his and other private collections. This is a case of where an owner's own ore was salted and sold to himself.

### Personal Equation.

Calculating machines have nothing on the calculating mother with three marriageable daughters on her hands.

### Never.

A boy will often overstep; That is no idle josh. He'll overeat—but hear me bleat—He'll never overwash.

### Pugilistic.

Teacher (describing her encounter with a tramp)—And then—I fainted. Little Johnnie Jeffries—W! yer left or W! yer right, ma'am?